

ABSTRACT

AL-V-291

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(168)
 State Line, Pennsylvania
 Public/private

1766/1767 (area surveyed/marked)
 1902 (new monument set at additional site)

Milestone No. ---(168) at the ^{eastern} edge of the small settlement of State Line, on the western foothills of Wills Mountain, is about 4500 feet west of the preceding monument/mound, No. ---(167) on the ridge of Wills Mountain (close to 158 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line). It is a very plain dressed Cockeysville marble monument with a low pyramidal top, of the same design and source as 65 other new monuments set during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary west of Sideling Hill. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly set (though slightly out of plumb); measures about 10 inches square by about 22 inches high above ground (with some of its rough-cut base now exposed); and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1766 on the east side (when this area was preliminarily surveyed), and 1902 on the west side (when this site was first established and monumented). No. ---(168) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 37 monuments marking the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, it is also significant symbolically for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
Magi No.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 168)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the east side of an unmarked road (WMRR and Wills Creek)

CITY, TOWN

State Line

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 9

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Allegany / PA: Bedford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS N/A

PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT☒ PUBLIC☐ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ BUILDING(S)☐ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ SITE**PUBLIC ACQUISITION****ACCESSIBLE**☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☒ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ not applicable☐ NO☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER: state
boundary marker

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form
and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form
and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR
nomination form)

TITLE

Allegany County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

AL-VB-280 entered 6/2/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

Survey No. ~~AL-VB-280~~

AL-V-A-291

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> additional site (2)

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(168) was a new monument when set in 1902 at an additional site on Mason and Dixon's West Line during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is a ^{dressed} Cockeysville marble post with a low pyramidal top; is in excellent condition, firmly set, unaltered; measures 10 inches square by about 22 inches above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, 1766 on the east side (the year this area was preliminarily surveyed), and 1902/^{on the west side} (when this new site was first monumented).

The area here is the sparsely settled eastern fringe of the town of Ellerslie called State Line, ^{and} the western ^{wooded} foothills of Wills Mountain. The site is within Election District 20 of Allegany County, MD, and Londonderry Township of Bedford County, PA; about 4500 feet west of the preceding monument/mound, No. ---(167) on the ridge of Wills Mountain; at a point about 2900 feet east of Wills Creek, ^{an unmarked road paralleling it on the east} and the Western Maryland Railroad at the line and about 1800 feet southeast of the Charles Wisler house (in back of the pumping station); about 1000 feet southwest of the new gas pipeline, at the south end of a wooded ridge, in an east-west old barbed wire fence. It cannot be seen from any road or the pipeline, but is easily found when closeby, and seems protected ^{and the Wislers} by the fencing/

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 west of Sideling Hill along the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground, with the remaining rough-cut base of about 5 feet for setting firmly into the ground. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. This monument is in near-perfect condition, though slightly out of plumb ^{about 6 inches of} and with the base showing above ground.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the several kinds/^{and sources} of new monuments set in 1902 and the Resurvey method of securing them into the ground)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		boundary surveying

SPECIFIC DATES

1766/1767 (area surveyed/marked) by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
 1902 (new monument set) by SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. ---(168) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the some 248 markers of the thematic group series still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This part of the Line was preliminarily surveyed in 1766, marked at irregular intervals with cairns and additional wood posts the following year, and the present site on the Line established and monumented in 1902 with a new Cockeysville marble marker during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 37 markers along the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. ---(168) is also significant for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Cumberland (Maryland-Pennsylvania-West Virginia), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1949 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 69206, northing 439918

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Allegany

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Bedford

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey DATE 10/25/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue TELEPHONE (301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix STATE Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

AL-V-A-291

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE - (168)

AL-V-291



CUMBERLAND QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA-WEST VIRGINIA

USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NE 1/4 FROSTBURG 15' QUADRANGLE SCALE: 1" = 2000'
1949 PHOTOGRAPH: 1942 23 MI. TO U.S. 30
HYNDMAN 5.4 MI. 1 78° 45'

5263 (SW HYNDMAN)

ALLEGANY

689 47'30" 690 300 000 FEET (MD.) 691

39° 45'

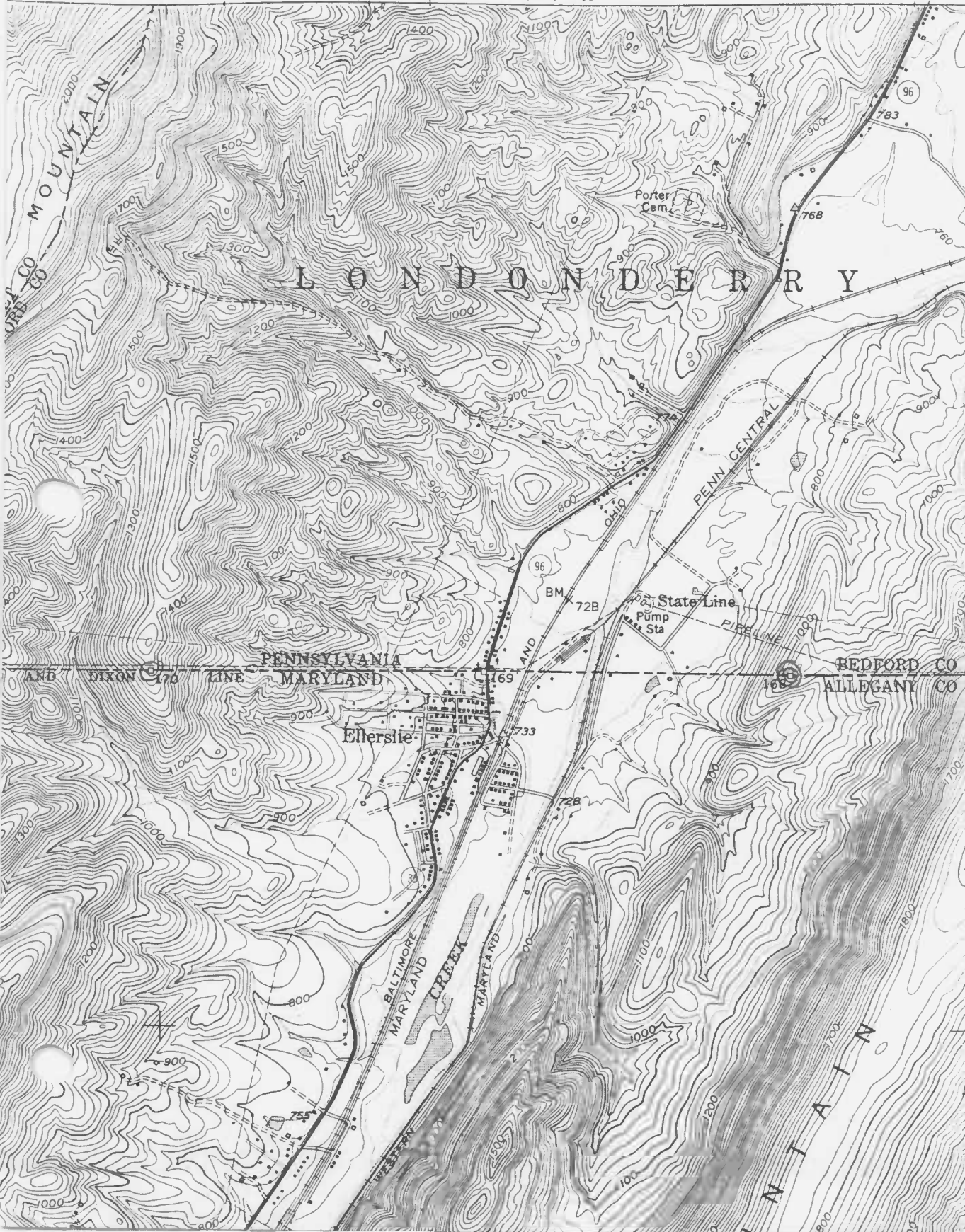
(168)

4402 (SCALE SET 1902)

700 000 FEET (MD.)

169

(HARVEY CROWN'S REPLACEMENT FOR HISTORICAL FOR MED NO. SET BY 1902)



4400

4399

4398

42° 30'

4397